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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

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Accounting Office of the General Accounting Office
by the Office of Congressional Relations

B-133209

MAY 13 1974

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The Honorable Edward R. Roybal
House of Representatives



Dear Mr. Roybal:

Your letter of January 31, 1974, requested us to audit White House accounts to determine the total cost of various legal actions.

In a later meeting with your office, we agreed to attempt to obtain:

1. The names of and costs incurred for attorneys on the White House rolls or detailed from other agencies working on Watergate and related matters during fiscal year 1973, fiscal year 1974 to January 9, 1974, and fiscal year 1974 to the date of our audit.
2. A breakout of the total time spent on Watergate matters.
3. The amount of supporting expenses related to Watergate matters.
4. The appropriations from which expenditures were paid.

The White House Office does not maintain accounting or other records which would permit us to obtain precise information on the costs incurred on Watergate. To obtain the best estimate of the information you requested, the White House staff furnished us the names of the attorneys, clerks, and secretaries who worked on or were assigned to offices which worked on Watergate. From White House payroll records, travel vouchers, and vouchers for fees paid to consultants, we obtained information on the expenditures from White House appropriations for the services and travel of these individuals. The White House staff also gave us the names of attorneys, clerks, and secretaries detailed to the White House and paid from the appropriations of other agencies. From information in the White House files, or furnished to us by the White House staff, as to grades and periods of detail, we computed the estimated salaries of these employees.

We reviewed the list of attorneys with Mr. Leonard Garment, Assistant to the President, who advised us as to his knowledge of those who worked on Watergate matters and, if less than full-time was spent on Watergate, his estimate on the percentage of time spent on Watergate. Mr. Garment was Counsel to the President from April 30, 1973, to January 4, 1974. During that time, he said, he spent from about 60 to 70 percent of his time on Watergate.

Using the above procedures, we have summarized below the information requested. (The salary cost of Government personnel includes 8 percent of gross salary for the Government's contribution to retirement, health, and life insurance plans.)

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SUMMARY

Following is the estimated cost of attorneys fees, salaries, and travel and supporting expenses incurred by or for the White House on Watergate.

Fiscal year 1973:

Consultants	\$ 6,315.88	
Attorneys--White House payroll	7,000.00	
Attorneys--detailed from other agencies	18,998.56	
Supporting costs	<u>15,000.00</u>	\$ 47,314.44

Fiscal year 1974 to 1-9-74:

Consultants	40,300.46	
Attorneys--White House payroll	44,876.83	
Attorneys--detailed from other agencies	79,728.32	
Supporting costs	<u>76,001.24</u>	240,906.85

Fiscal year 1974--1-10-74 to 3-24-74:

Consultants	5,092.66	
Attorneys--White House payroll	28,544.27	
Attorneys--detailed from other agencies	31,031.52	
Supporting costs	<u>29,584.33</u>	<u>94,252.78</u>

Total		<u>\$382,474.07</u>
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Additional information on these costs follows.

NAMES OF AND COSTS INCURRED FOR CONSULTANTS
AND ATTORNEYS ON THE WHITE HOUSE ROLLS OR
DETAILED FROM OTHER AGENCIES

Fiscal year 1973Consultants

Charles Alan Wright
Thomas P. Marinis

Fees	\$4,762.50
Travel	<u>1,553.38</u>
Total	<u>\$6,315.88</u>

Expenditures were from appropriation (1130114), Special Projects. The services all related to Watergate.

White House Payroll

John W. Dean III
Leonard Garment

Mr. Garment told us that from about April 9 until June 30, 1973, he spent about 60 or 70 percent of his time on Watergate. Mr. Dean, who was Counsel to the President before Mr. Garment, obviously also spent some time on Watergate during fiscal year 1973, but Mr. Garment said he had no idea what percentage of Mr. Dean's time was so spent. Using Mr. Garment's estimate of the percentage of his time spent on Watergate, we estimate that about \$7,000 was expended during fiscal year 1973 from the appropriation Salaries and Expenses, the White House Office (1130110), for his services related to Watergate.

Detailed to the White House

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Mary C. Lawton	Department of Justice	\$ 1,569.11
J. Fred Buzhardt	Department of Defense	5,831.55
Robert T. Andrews	Department of Defense	4,891.10
Douglas Parker	Department of Housing and Urban Development	<u>6,706.80</u>
	Total	<u>\$18,998.56</u>

We were advised by officials in the White House Office that the salaries of the above personnel were paid by the agencies from which they were detailed. As far as we could determine, their assignments during this period all related to Watergate.

Fiscal year 1974 to 1-9-74

Consultants

Charles Alan Wright
Jerome Murphy
Thomas P. Marinis
Samuel Powers

Fees paid from appropriation Special Projects (1140114)	\$18,862.50
Fees paid from appropriation Salaries and Expenses, the White House Office (1140110)	9,550.00
Travel paid from appropriation Special Projects (1140114)	5,313.85
Travel paid from appropriation Salaries and Expenses, the White House Office (1140110)	<u>6,574.11</u>
	<u>\$40,300.46</u>

During fiscal year 1973 consultants' fees and travel expenses were paid from the Special Projects appropriation. During fiscal year 1974, these costs continued to be charged to the Special Projects appropriation for

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which funds were made available under a continuing resolution until October 1973. The fiscal year 1974 appropriation law did not provide any funds for Special Projects, so, for the balance of the year, the fees and expenses of the consultants were charged to the Salaries and Expenses appropriation.

Full-time White House employees

James D. St. Clair
J. Fred Buzhardt
Cecil Emerson
Leonard Garment

Salaries and travel were paid from appropriation Salaries and Expenses, the White House Office (1140110).

Salaries (note a)	\$43,029.09
Travel	<u>1,847.74</u>
Total	<u>\$44,876.83</u>

a/ On the basis of a discussion with Mr. Garment, we have included only 70 percent of his salary during this period in this amount.

Detailed employees

	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Robert T. Andrews	Department of Defense	\$20,211.38
Richard T. Hauser	Department of Justice	10,583.88
Kenneth G. Haynes	Department of Justice	9,441.10
John A. McCahill	(note a)	3,223.76
Douglas Parker	Department of Housing and Urban Development	16,394.40
Loren Smith	Federal Communications Commission	2,252.53
Paul S. Tribble, Jr.	Department of Justice	4,629.66
George P. Williams	Department of Justice	9,853.41
Michael Sterlacci	(note a)	<u>2,317.08</u>
Total		<u>\$78,907.20</u>

a/ White House Office files show that Mr. McCahill was employed by Justice immediately before being detailed to the White House on November 27, 1973. Officials of Justice and Agriculture said he transferred to Agriculture on November 27, 1973, and his salary while on detail has been paid by Agriculture. The White House Office files show that Mr. Sterlacci was employed by the United States Information Agency (USIA) immediately before being detailed to the White House. USIA and Department of Transportation officials said he transferred to Transportation on December 9, 1973, and was immediately detailed to the White House. His salary while on detail to the White House has been paid by Transportation.

The detailed employees incurred travel expenses of \$821.12 during this period, which were paid from the Salaries and Expenses, the White House Office, appropriation (1140110).

Fiscal year 1974--1-10-74 to 3-24-74

Consultants

Charles Alan Wright
Jerome Murphy

Fees and travel expenses were paid from Salary and Expenses, the White House Office (1140110).

Fees	\$4,137.50
Travel	<u>955.16</u>
Total	<u>\$5,092.66</u>

Full-time White House employees

Cecil Emerson
James D. St. Clair
John J. Chester
George P. Williams (beginning 2-17-74)

Salaries and travel were paid from Salaries and Expenses, the White House Office (1140110).

Salaries	\$26,746.24
Travel	<u>1,798.03</u>
Total	<u>\$28,544.27</u>

Detailed employees

	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Robert T. Andrews	Department of Defense	\$ 7,029.24
Richard T. Hauser	Department of Justice	5,655.49
Kenneth Haynes	Department of Justice	1,302.22
John A. McCahill	(note a)	5,407.53
Loren A. Smith	Federal Communications Commission	3,778.44
George P. Williams	Department of Justice (to 2-16-74)	2,395.79
Michael Sterlacci	(note a)	<u>5,238.61</u>
Total		<u>\$30,807.32</u>

a/See note for prior period.

Travel expenses of these employees of \$224.20 during this period were paid from the appropriation Salaries and Expenses, the White House Office (1140110).

SUPPORTING EXPENSES

The White House Office prepared an estimate of the supporting, or administrative, expenses for Watergate for fiscal year 1974 to January 9, 1974, and from January 10 to March 24, 1974. Included in these estimates were such items as the salaries of clerks, secretaries, paper and other supplies, and machine rental. For salaries paid from White House appropriations, we verified, for the names furnished to us, the salaries paid during the above periods. For salaries paid from appropriations of other agencies, we computed the salaries paid from information furnished to us by the White House staff as to the grades of these employees and periods assigned to the White House.

The White House staff did not prepare an estimate of supporting costs for fiscal year 1973. On the basis of the estimates which it did prepare for fiscal year 1974 through March 24, 1974, we estimated the supporting costs for this period.

Fiscal year 1973

The estimates prepared by the White House staff for fiscal year 1974 through March 24, 1974, as adjusted by us on the basis of our review of the supporting information, show that supporting costs amounted to about 46 percent of salaries and other costs for attorneys. Applying this percentage to the attorney costs for fiscal year 1973, we estimate that supporting costs for fiscal year 1973 amounted to about \$15,000.

Fiscal year 1974 to 1-9-74

The estimated supporting costs for this period were \$76,001.24. Of this, \$53,826.76 was spent from the White House Office Salaries and Expense appropriation (1140110). According to information furnished to us by the White House Office, the balance of \$22,174.48 was for salaries of detailed employees and was paid from the appropriations of the following agencies.

Department of Labor	\$ 951.87
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare	951.87
Department of Transportation (note a)	538.01
Department of Housing and Urban Development	11,634.54
Department of Defense	<u>8,098.19</u>
Total	<u><u>\$22,174.48</u></u>

a/The employee paid by Transportation transferred from Justice and was immediately detailed to the White House.

Fiscal year 1974--1-10-74 through 3-24-74

The estimated supporting costs for this period were \$29,584.33. Of this, \$17,913.67 was expended from the White House Office Salaries and Expense appropriation (1140110). According to information furnished to us by the White House staff, the balance of \$11,670.66 was for salaries of detailed employees and was paid from the appropriations of the following agencies.

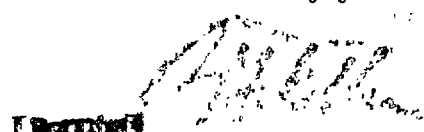
Department of Housing and Urban Development	\$ 2,888.87
Department of Defense	428.20
Department of the Interior (note a)	707.62
Department of Agriculture (note a)	241.49
Domestic Council	948.33
Department of Labor	2,152.05
Department of Health, Education, and Welfare	2,152.05
Department of Transportation (note a)	<u>2,152.05</u>
 Total	 <u>\$11,670.66</u>

a/Information furnished to us by the White House Office staff shows that employees paid by Agriculture and Transportation worked for Justice immediately before being detailed to the White House. They transferred to Agriculture and Transportation and were immediately detailed to the White House. The employee paid by Interior transferred from the Office of Management and Budget to Interior while on detail to the White House.

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We plan no further distribution of this report unless you agree or publicly announce its contents.

Sincerely yours,


Comptroller General
of the United States